

Claims

1. A compressed gas container comprising an annular block flange that is provided on an upper opening of its wall and is welded to the container, with a flange cover equipped with at least one discharge valve being bolt connectible or bolt connected to said block flange,

characterized in that the block flange (14) is extended radially outside of a region coverable or covered by the flange cover (15) by a solid annular flange (40) having its outside welded to the wall (10, 11, 12) of the container (10') and having on its inside, adjacent to the coverable or covered region in an upper end face (42) a peripheral groove (44) for receiving a sealing rib (46) of an emergency cap (50) bolt connectible or bolt connected to the annular flange (40).

2. The compressed gas container according to claim 1, characterized in that the annular flange and the block flange (14) are constructed as a single-piece component.

3. The compressed gas container according to claim 1, characterized in that the annular flange is a separate part welded to the block flange (14).

4. The compressed gas container according to any one of the claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the annular flange (40) is provided with a ring of tapped bores (48) for bolting to a mounting flange (54) of the emergency cap (50).

5. The compressed gas container according to any one of the claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the sealing rib (46) protrudes from an end face (62) of the cylindrical wall (52).

6. The compressed gas container according to any one of the claims 1 to 5, characterized by a sealing ring (64) placed in the peripheral groove (44).

7. The compressed gas container according to any one of the claims 4 to 6, characterized in that the emergency cap (50) has a cylindrical wall (52) and radially embraces the flange cover (15) tightly in mounted condition on the compressed gas container (10').

8. The compressed gas container according to claim 7, characterized in that the annular flange (40) has a raised outer rim (66) at a radial distance to the peripheral groove (44), said rim radially embracing the cylindrical wall (52) tightly with the emergency cap (50) in mounted condition.

9. The compressed gas container according to claim 8, characterized in that the peripheral groove (44) is located centrally between an outer circumference of the flange cover (15) and an inner circumference of the raised rim (66) of the annular flange (40).

10. The compressed gas container according to claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the mounting flange (54) of the emergency cap (50) is provided on an outside of the cylindrical wall (52).

11. The compressed gas container according to claim 10, characterized in that the mounting flange (54) on the outside of the cylindrical wall (52) is provided in such a way that, with the emergency cap (50) mounted, it is spaced a narrow axial distance from an axially adjacent end face (68) of the raised rim (66) of the annular flange (40).

12. The compressed gas container according to claim 11, characterized in that the mounting flange (54) is a flange ring welded to the outside of the cylindrical wall (52).

13. The compressed gas container according to any one of the claims 1 to 12, characterized in that the compressed gas container (10') is one of a type specially designed to accommodate the block flange (14) extended by the annular flange (40) with a correspondingly enlarged upper opening in its wall (10, 11, 12).

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received at the International Bureau on 26 November 2004 (26.11.04),
amended claims 1 - 13 substituted for claims 1 - 13 as originally filed]

+ STATEMENT

[amended claims under Article 19(1) PCT: Claim 1 substituted for claim 1 as originally filed; claims 2 - 13 correspond to claims 2 - 13 as originally filed]

1. A compressed gas container comprising an annular block flange that is provided on an upper opening in its wall and is welded to the container, with a flange cover equipped with at least one discharge valve being bolt connectible or bolt connected to said block flange,

characterized in that the block flange (14) is extended radially outside of a region coverable or covered by the flange cover (15) by a solid annular flange (40) having its outside welded to the wall (10, 11, 12) of the container (10') and having on its inside, adjacent to the coverable or covered region in an upper end face (42) a peripheral groove (44) for receiving a sealing rib (46) of an emergency cap (50) that is screw connectible or screw connected to the annular flange (40) and is used only when required, if a leak has occurred.

2. The compressed gas container according to claim 1, characterized in that the annular flange and the block flange (14) are constructed as a single-piece component.

3. The compressed gas container according to claim 1, characterized in that the annular flange is a separate part welded to the block flange (14).

4. The compressed gas container according to any one of the claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the annular flange (40) is provided with a ring of tapped bores (48) for bolting to a mounting flange (54) of the emergency cap (50).

5. The compressed gas container according to any one of the claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the sealing rib (46) protrudes from an end face (62) of the cylindrical wall (52).

6. The compressed gas container according to any one of the claims 1 to 5, characterized by a sealing ring (64) placed in the peripheral groove (44).

7. The compressed gas container according to any one of the claims 4 to 6, characterized in that the emergency cap (50) has a cylindrical wall (52) and radially embraces the flange cover (15) tightly in mounted condition on the compressed gas container (10').

8. The compressed gas container according to claim 7, characterized in that the annular flange (40) has a raised outer rim (66) at a radial distance to the peripheral groove (44), said rim radially embracing the cylindrical wall (52) tightly with the emergency cap (50) in mounted condition.

9. The compressed gas container according to claim 8, characterized in that the peripheral groove (44) is located centrally between an outer circumference of the flange cover (15) and an inner circumference of the raised rim (66) of the annular flange (40).

10. The compressed gas container according to claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the mounting flange (54) of the emergency cap (50) is provided on an outside of the cylindrical wall (52).

11. The compressed gas container according to claim 10, characterized in that the mounting flange (54) on the outside of the cylindrical wall (52) is provided in such a way that, with the emergency cap (50) mounted, it is spaced a narrow axial distance from an axially adjacent end face (68) of the raised rim (66) of the annular flange (40).

12. The compressed gas container according to claim 11, characterized in that the mounting flange (54) is a flange ring welded to the outside of the cylindrical wall (52).

13. The compressed gas container according to any one of the claims 1 to 12, characterized in that the compressed gas container (10') is one of a type specially designed to accommodate the block flange (14) extended by the annular flange (40) with a correspondingly enlarged upper opening in its wall (10, 11, 12).